

REMARKS

Independent Claims 18, 24, and 42 are revised in a further effort to define combinations of subject matter unobvious over the art of record. Claim 24 also is revised to correct a spelling error noted by the Examiner. Claims 2, 3, 6, 18-24, 42-44, and 47 remain, with no claim previously allowed.

In Claim 24, "deleing" is changed to --deleting--. This change responds to the objection in the last Office action.

Claims 2, 3, 6, 18-24, 42-44, and 47 were rejected as unpatentable over *Brandt* (US 6,714,979) in view of *Hartmann* (US 2003/0055976). The applicants respectfully traverse that rejection as possibly applied to the amended claims.

Amendments to the rejected claims point out with increases specificity certain differences between elements of those claims and disclosures of the references, said by the Examiner to teach or anticipate those elements. Those revisions to the claims, together with other elements of the overall claimed invention, are discussed in the following paragraphs.

The rejection states that *Brandt* assigns a unique report number for each generated report, citing column 10, lines 46-49. That section states, however, that a client *request* to the application server produces a responds to the requestor with a unique identifier and closes the socket connection. The client (requestor) may then poll periodically until a response is ready, at which time the resultant data is delivered (column 10, lines 50-53). However, that passage in *Brandt* does not teach assigning a unique report number for each of the generated reports, as required by Claims 18, 24, and 42. Moreover, once the

resultant data is delivered by *Brandt*, polling the "unique identifier" ceases with no further need for that identifier.

The rejection also finds the limitation "importing selected data from the provided report summaries into a spreadsheet", at column 28, lines 37-43 of *Brandt*. However, that passage says only that the Report Viewer application 215 is provided with "spreadsheet management functionality" that defines what operations can be performed on the spreadsheet. Column 28 of *Brandt*, starting at line 8, makes clear that *Brandt* does not "import selected data from the provided report summaries into a spreadsheet". Instead, *Brandt* discloses spreadsheet operations performed on the *reports* (not summaries thereof) generated by his system.

The claims also require "importing selected data from the provided report summaries on the printer emulator into a spreadsheet". The rejection acknowledges that *Brandt* does not disclose a printer emulator, but cites Hartman as providing "a terminal emulator connected with a printer emulator which allows the system to print reports" (paragraphs 0009, 0040 and 0045). From that disclosure by Hartman, the rejection concludes that it would have been obvious to modify *Brandt's* teachings by incorporating a printer emulator mechanism taught by *Hartmann*.

Hartmann does indeed disclose that "both client terminal and printer emulators often connect to a server on a host system" [0009; 0040]. What *Hartmann* does not disclose or suggest, however, are the steps of providing summaries of at least one generated report to a computer acting as a terminal emulator, importing selected data from the report summaries on the printer emulator into a spreadsheet, and saving the spreadsheet on a computer acting as a terminal emulator.

The applicants do not disagree that one of ordinary skill, following *Hartmann's* teaching that client terminal and printer emulators often connect to a server, might have substituted a terminal/printer emulator for the Report Viewer application 215 of *Brandt*. However, that hypothetical substitution would not suggest that one of ordinary skill should modify *Brandt* by providing summaries, to a computer acting as a printer emulators, of at least one generated report; importing selected data from that report summary on the printer emulator into a spreadsheet; saving the spreadsheet on a computer acting as a terminal emulator; and connecting to the mainframe database system with the computer acting as a terminal emulator. Those teachings, in the overall context of the independent claims, come only from the present applicants, and those applicants are entitled to patent protection thereon.

The claims also require submitting a print request to the mainframe database system from the terminal emulator to print selected reports based on the summary information in the spreadsheet for at least one of the generated reports. Those selected reports from the mainframe database system are provided to the printer emulator in responds to the print request. The provided reports are then saved as word-processing documents and stored on a storage device. The rejection finds these limitations in *Brandt* at column 13, lines 7-12 and 22-29; at column 5, lines 14-23; column 8, lines 8-48; and column 29; lines 10-11. Column 13, lines 7-12 and 22-29, disclose only that reporting is provided through a GUI application that also generates data related to report management. Column 25, lines 14-23, further discusses the client GUI, including the display and creating of reports and graphs based on fields of the displayed reports. Column 28, lines 8-48 further discusses the Report Viewer (GUI) application and the

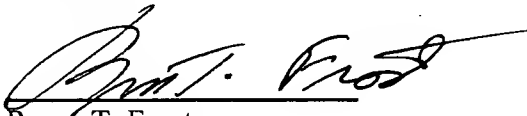
user's options while viewing a report. Column 29, lines 10-11 merely states that certain metadata descriptions can be used to provide common data export and report printing services. Those passages from *Brandt* thus disclose only printing reports obtained through his data warehousing system; they do not teach the specific combination of steps mentioned at the beginning of the present paragraph, alone or in the overall context of the claims.

For at least the reasons detailed above, the applicants submit that independent Claim 18, 24, and 42, and the claims depending therefrom, define a method and a system that becomes "obvious" only from their own disclosure, but not from any teachings by *Brandt* and *Hartmann*. For those reasons, the claims are patentable over those references.

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office action identified above. A Notice of Allowance to all remaining claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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